



County of Los Angeles
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

425 Shatto Place, Los Angeles, California 90020
(213) 351-5602

PATRICIA S. PLOEHN, LCSW
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August 21, 2008

To: Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke, Chair
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From: Patricia S. Ploehn, L.C.S.W.
Director of Children and Family Services

Marvin J. Southard, D.S.W.
Director of Mental Health

**AUGUST 21, 2007, ITEM 53, BOARD MOTION RE: QUARTERLY REPORT:
ENHANCED SPECIALIZED FOSTER CARE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN**

On August 21, 2007, your Board approved the Countywide Enhanced Specialized Foster Care Mental Health Services Corrective Action Plan (CAP) which represented the County's response to a November 2006 "Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law Order" issued by Federal District Court Judge Howard A. Matz in the Katie A. v. Bonta lawsuit. At that same time, your Board instructed the Directors of the Departments of Mental Health (DMH) and Children and Family Services (DCFS) to provide quarterly reports to the Board for the purpose of monitoring and tracking the implementation of the components of the CAP. Two updates have already been provided to your Board, on January 24, 2008 and June 16, 2008, with the third update due on August 21, 2008.

Simultaneously, DMH and DCFS, in consultation with the Katie A. Advisory Panel, have developed the Katie A. Strategic Plan to provide a single comprehensive vision for the current and planned delivery of mental health services to children under the supervision and care of child welfare, as well as for those children at-risk of entering the child welfare system. The Strategic Plan provides a detailed road map for the countywide implementation and delivery of mental health services, in fulfillment of the objectives identified in the Katie A. Settlement Agreement, over a five-year period, and acts as the central reference for incorporating several planning efforts in this regard including the following:

Each Supervisor
August 21, 2008
Page 2 of 2

- Katie A. Settlement Agreement, 2003;
- Countywide Enhanced Specialized Mental Health Services Joint Plan (Plan), 2005;
- Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law Order, 2006, issued by Federal District Court Judge Howard Matz regarding the County's Plan; and
- The County's subsequent Corrective Action Plan (CAP), 2007, stemming from the deficiencies cited in the Court's Findings of Facts and Conclusions of Law.

The Strategic Plan is currently being finalized for submission to your Board by September 4, 2008 to be reviewed by your Board on September 16, 2008. The Strategic Plan will be offered for your review in lieu of the quarterly report scheduled for August 21, 2008.

Should there be any questions regarding this matter please contact us, or, your staff may contact Armand Montiel, DCFS Board Liaison, at (213) 351-5530.

PSP: MJS: AO:
GL:LB:dm

c: Chief Executive Officer
Deputy Chief Executive Officer for Children and Families' Well-Being
Deputy Chief Executive Officer for Health and Mental Health
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel